

a<sup>1</sup>  
adding to said fluid a maximum of 1 g/l of a composition comprising at least one compound selected from the group consisting of partial esters of polyols with C6 - C12 fatty acids, with the chain lengths of the acid and polyol parts being chosen such that said partial ester has sufficient dispersion in water, compatibility with any other ingredients, does not form an emulsion with the reservoir oil, and adsorbs sufficiently on the porous formation.

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3. (Amended) A method according to one of Claim 1, wherein said polyols are diols, triols, or polyols with more than 3 hydroxy functions, or mixed polyalkoxide derivatives thereof.

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a<sup>2</sup>  
4. (Amended) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said composition is a partial ester of C8-C10 fatty acids and polyglycerol.

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5. (Amended) A method according to Claim 4, wherein said polyglycerol has between 24 and 30% glycerol, between 28 and 34% diglycerol, between 20 and 26% triglycerol, between 9 and 15% tetraglycerol, and between 4 and 10% pentaglycerol.

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7. (Amended) A water-based well fluid for use in a method according to claim 1 comprising a maximum of 1 g/l of a composition comprising at least one compound selected from the

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group consisting of the partial esters of polyols with C6-C12 fatty acids, with the chain lengths of the acid and polyol parts being chosen such that said partial ester has sufficient dispersion in water, compatibility with any other ingredients, does not form an emulsion with the reservoir oil, and adsorbs sufficiently on the porous formation.

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9. (Amended) A fluid according to Claim 8, wherein said composition is a partial ester of C8-C10 fatty acid and polyglycerol.

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10. (Amended) A fluid according to Claim 9, wherein said polyglycerol has between 24 and 30% glycerol, between 28 and 34% diglycerol, between 20 and 26% triglycerol, between 9 and 15% tetraglycerol and between 4 and 10% pentaglycerol.

Please add the following new Claims 12 - 15:

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12. A method according to Claim 5, wherein said polyglycerol has 27% glycerol, preferably 31% diglycerol, 23% triglycerol, 12% tetraglycerol and 7% pentaglycerol.

13. A fluid according to claim 7 further comprising at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of filtrate reducers, viscosifiers and heavy mineral suspensoids.

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14. A fluid according to Claim 7, wherein said polyols are diols, triols or polyols with more than 3 hydroxy functions, or mixed polyalkoxide derivatives thereof.

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15. A fluid according to Claim 9, wherein said polyglycerol has 27% glycerol, preferably 31% diglycerol, 23% triglycerol, 12% tetraglycerol and 7% pentaglycerol.—